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A TIMELY PUBLICATION.

At the principal LITERARY DEPOTS, and, by the quantity, at No. 83 MAGAZINE STREET, can be procured a pamphlet, entitled "PROVIDENTIAL ASPECT AND SALUTARY TENDENCY OF THE EXISTING CRISIS." The author—an old citizen—designed this work as the means of contributing to five results, conducive to the interest of our Republic, viz :

- First, and chiefly, to correct public opinion in Europe, concerning the character of our people, the practical operation of our prominent institution and—the magnitude of our national resources : or, as an antidote to the libelous publications which have so long grossly deluded people abroad :
- Second, to demonstrate to our COTTON PLANTERS the palpable expediency of retaining their cotton during the existing blockade, and of burning any portion thereof, the capture of which may be menaced :
- Third, to augment, if possible, the confidence of our people and especially our troops, in our ultimate triumph, thus rendering the latter still more formidable :
- Fourth, to guard against a return to that literary, commercial and financial vassalage to our enemies, which has hitherto so deplorably retarded the development of our boundless resources :
- Fifth, to expose the profound bigotry and fatuity of those citizens of Kentucky, Missouri, Maryland, and small portions of Virginia and Tennessee, who still cling to the suicidal idea of continued political connection with our malignant enemies.

If the author has been to some extent successful in accomplishing the contemplated design, there can be but one opinion among intelligent persons relative to the expediency of giving his pamphlet a wide circulation, especially in Europe and among cotton planters.

New Orleans, October, 1861.



PROVIDENTIAL ASPECT

AND

SALUTARY TENDENCY

OF THE

EXISTING CRISIS.

"In each event of life, how clear
Thy ruling hand I see!"

NEW ORLEANS:
Picayune Office Print, 65 Camp street.
1861.

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PROVIDENTIAL ASPECT

AND

SALUTARY TENDENCY

OF THE

EXISTING CRISIS.

In ordinary times, it becomes those whose aversion to the responsibility of public office has served to restrict their acquaintance with national and state affairs, and who can make no pretensions to ripe scholarship, to leave with men whose taste thus leads them, the sole management of such matters. But when great political exigencies arise, every patriotic citizen, however humble his ability, should feel impelled to contribute his ~~might~~ towards a salutary solution of the gigantic issues rising up in their sublime proportions, and severely taxing the vast resources of even the most experienced and profound statesman. To deny that such a demand for individual effort now confronts and perplexes us, would be to plead ignorance of the multitudinous events which throng the present era, and will render it memorable on the historic page.

The captivating rhetoric and brilliant imagery of the gifted and cultivated orator will enchant the developed intellect, while the homely phrases of the unlettered stump-speaker, are far better adapted to the comprehension of the masses. I therefore venture to hope that in striving to expose fallacies, the inculcation of which has culminated so disastrously, I may, to a very limited extent, subserve the public good.

Being aware of the impenetrability of bigoted minds, I solicit the candid and unprejudiced attention of those only who are sufficiently developed, mentally, to appreciate the importance of attaining philosophical knowledge on all momentous subjects, never accepting, second-hand, abstract and superficial interpretations thereof.

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None of the latter will, I presume, question the fact that Truth is eternal and Error temporal—consequently that all indulging the latter, will, sooner or later, here or hereafter, be compelled to abandon it and accept the former, despite the mortification of confessing their previous delusion, and its deplorable hindrance to their intellectual advancement. Neither can any enlightened person assume that both truth and error, on a given subject, can occupy one's mind at the same time. It therefore follows that so long as one continues to cherish error, he thus precludes progress in knowledge: hence the expediency of rigidly scrutinizing and carefully analyzing arguments adverse to our own opinions. One shrinking from such an ordeal, lacks the capacity to understand his own interest. Practically claiming self-infallibility, he closes every avenue through which light could reach his mind and develope its resources. This obtuseness nowise disparages those striving to dispel the fallacies which obstruct his mental growth, but simply injures himself by prolonging his intellectual infancy. No intelligent person can respect one so bigoted and narrow-minded: such must necessarily deplore and pity his ignorance and infatuation. I once knew a man who denounced and repudiated the Copernican System because if our globe revolved, as that claimed, *its undermost inhabitants would fall off*. Had he permitted me to explain the law of gravitation, and the overwhelming testimony furnished by a lunar eclipse, the truth would have been fully elucidated. But, having assumed a gross fallacy, he vehemently rejected all arguments incompatible therewith. Did he injure any one save himself? Wishing to reach a given locality, but being too self-wise to examine the guide-boards erected for the convenience of travellers, I find after performing a wearisome journey, that I am as far from that locality as I was when starting. This road will not change its position because I would fain have it appear that one so wise as myself cannot err, but I must abandon my fallacy and accept inflexible truth. The time and strength expended in consequence of rejecting the guidance kindly proffered by those better informed than myself, has been squandered. I have merely punished myself, without in any manner disparaging those who strove to prevent such deplorable self-stultification.

One who has not ascertained that he seriously retards his intellectual development by listening to, and reading, the arguments of those only who concur in his own views, has not yet learned even the primary lessons of wisdom. It is only by constant and severe conflict

with antagonistic elements, that one's mental resources can be developed and expanded. To question this would be no less absurd than would be the supposition that his muscles could be strengthened, by pulling a rope offering no resistance at the other end. So far from deprecating a searching criticism of the arguments I may at any time present, I earnestly desire it as a test of their validity, being anxious to facilitate my progress in knowledge by abandoning any views I may have formed, the moment their fallacy can be clearly demonstrated. Thus only can I purge my mind of worthless and cumbersome trash, making room for vigorous and progressive ideas. This system has led to the repudiation of many opinions I had previously deemed sound. He who indolently leans upon others, accepting, untested by exhaustive individual analysis, such opinions, on any subject whatever, as they shall pronounce reliable, will never attain adult intellectuality, since no human faculty can be fully developed, otherwise than by constant and active exercise.

Readers recognizing the validity of the foregoing propositions, will estimate the opinions and arguments I am about to offer, by their intrinsic merits or demerits, rather than by any conclusions on the same topics they may have previously formed.

Among those who inaugurated the late American Union, the opinion that slavery was abstractly wrong was very general, if not universal. Under this conviction, Washington and many other Virginians organized a project for its prospective extinction in that State. Fanatics in the non-slave-holding States, deeming this undertaking too tardy in its operation, strove to expedite the proposed consummation, by demanding a modification of the programme. Indignant at such unsolicited interference, the former fortunately abandoned their scheme, permitting the institution to proceed, unmolested, in the development of its mission.

Thus did those professing intense sympathy for the negro, although he was ten-fold more comfortable than the poor, struggling beings daily thronging their path, entirely defeat the first effort towards his emancipation in the United States, and materially contribute to the subsequent expansion of slavery. Their gratuitous meddling with the moral duties of slave-owners, so excited and stimulated the minds of the latter, that they were enabled to detect the fallacy of the prevalent sentiment. Grasping a more comprehensive view of the subject, they discovered that slavery was eminently ameliorative of the African race—that ne-

groes in a state of bondage were vastly more respectable, contented and happy than they were when free. The moral deterioration of that race in the non-slave-holding States, and in St. Domingo, consequent upon their escape from the wholesome restraint which had previously kept them in comparative civilization, overwhelmingly demonstrated their incapacity for self-government. The deplorable consequences of emancipation in the British and French Colonies, subsequently confirmed the conviction that enlightened and genuine philanthropy counselled the perpetuation of our prominent institution, under humane regulations, such as had always been deemed obligatory both by law and by public opinion, and were clearly conducive to our self-interest. A decline in the aggregate agricultural productions of a given locality, unless caused by emigration, as it was not in the case under consideration, is always indicative of the deterioration of either the soil or the morality of the cultivators thereof. The immense falling-off in the productions of these West India Islands, which followed emancipation, was not owing to the former, and was therefore attributable to the latter cause. This conclusion is rendered inevitable by a comparison of the miserable, lazy, degraded and impudent beings now infesting those Islands, with the industrious, orderly, contented and happy slaves there seen prior to the suicidal subversion of the unerring decrees of Nature.

I learn from one of our citizens—a native of one of these Colonies—that a relative residing in Jamaica, recently purchased for *fifty-four thousand* dollars, deeming it a rare bargain, a plantation which, with the slaves upon it, was once worth *a million* dollars. Having employed, *at stipulated wages*, the requisite number of “freemen” to cultivate it, he anticipated a handsome interest upon the investment. Subsequently, however, the negroes demanded *double the stipulated wages*. Perceiving that the loss of the promised crop would prove economical compared to a compliance with their atrocious exactions, he chose the former. Having squandered no inconsiderable sum in a futile attempt to render this estate remunerative, he was anxious, but unable, to part with his imaginary bargain at *five thousand dollars less* than it cost a few months previous. Historical facts like these, are impregnable. The paltry calibre of sophistry may forever assail them with its harmless missiles, but their eternal foundation cannot be shaken. They demonstrate, beyond cavil, the tendency of the negro race to relapse into its natural barbarism, when released from salutary discipline. Such an overwhelming practical refutation of the absurd and childish abolition theory, must prove irresistible to all possessing sufficient moral courage

to confront it manfully, and estimate the magnitude of its significance. Let such avail themselves of all reliable sources of information, and they can reach but one conclusion, viz: that negroes must inevitably be either the slaves of a superior race, or the vassals of their own demoralizing and degrading animal propensities. I, of course, admit that there are exceptions—we have all seen many such exceptions—but no unprejudiced person, being conversant with the characteristics of that race, will pretend that this disability is not manifest in the mass of them. To which of these two kinds of servitude should they be subjected, by those upon whom devolves the duty of protecting them and promoting their welfare? Conclusive as is the evidence already examined, it is corroborated by other developments, superinduced by the short-sighted and pernicious policy of the British and French Governments. Having extinguished *natural* slavery in their Colonies, thus paralyzing their agricultural resources, those Governments were induced to resort to a system of *artificial* slavery, vastly more objectionable, in the hope of neutralizing the egregious blunder they had committed in obedience to the senseless clamor of narrow-minded and bigoted abstractionists. While spending millions in a philanthropic effort to suppress an illicit African slave trade, they furnished a pernicious example to those pursuing that traffic, by themselves legalizing the cooly slave trade, attended with even greater cruelty to its victims than was the former. An anecdote I have heard aptly illustrates such amusing inconsistency: "Mistress O'Neil," whispered the gentlemanly and dignified Mr. Murphy, "I shall presently call for a glass of limonade; and, when me back is turned—unbeknown to meself—slip in a gill of whiskey, if you please: I'm a timperance marn." And why did these deluded Governments have to call for "a glass of limonade," forthwith turning their backs to the bar? Simply because their doubly ruinous experiment had rendered the negro "freemen" in their Colonies wholly unreliable as tillers of the soil, and transformed them into a disgusting gang of loafers—a nuisance to the white population, many of the latter being consequently compelled to emigrate. But the Cooly system of dodging the *name* of slavery while inaugurating *actual* slavery, decidedly more objectionable than the normal servile institution which preceded it, proved successful only to a limited extent, since it did not prevent a material decline in the productiveness of those Colonies, and in the value of real estate there. Thus will it ever be when man presumptuously essays to subvert the laws of Nature—when the finite undertakes to remedy the practically alleged blunders of the Infinite.

And shall *we* reject this instructive historical testimony,—this irrefutable logic of facts—because it does not harmonize with the visionary theories of self-righteous and ignorant bigots, whose contracted minds cannot grasp a comprehensive view of a subject—men whose opinions are based upon such unmitigated lies as those fermenting and festering on the pages of “Uncle Tom’s Cabin,” and kindred atrocious libels upon the people of our Republic? One detailing his experience at a degraded brothel, as illustrative of refined society, would not more grossly and willfully pervert truth, than do such stratagems for picking the pockets of the credulous. To permit such literary felons to remain outside of the penitentiary, is to defraud justice of her due. The time will come when such avaricious and unprincipled beings as those whose vocation it has been to fill their own pockets by pandering to the depraved appetites of the ignorant and the intolerant, will be despised and execrated by all intelligent and high-minded persons.

The people of the South having, as here proved, ascertained that slavery was the condition most conducive to the welfare of the negro, perceived that duty prompted them to facilitate the extension of it—that it would be criminal not to counteract the designs of those striving to abolish that salutary and beneficent institution—as criminal as would be acquiescence in a project for the subversion of the wholesome influence of parental discipline. White children, generally, having attained the age of twelve and upward, are better qualified for self-control than are the mass of adult negroes. To those possessing individual knowledge on the subject, this is self-evident. The fallacies originally indulged by slave-owners having, as shown, been superseded by broader and more enlightened views, in consequence of the impudent interference of their fanatical enemies, it is evident that the latter have been instrumental in augmenting the magnitude of our prominent institution. Had such busy-bodies been content to guard the integrity of their own consciences, instead of assuming a gratuitous supervision over those far more developed, morally, the slave population would not so soon have attained the prodigious aggregate of *four millions*, and slavery would, ere this, have been abolished in at least three of the States which still, and doubtless will for centuries, retain it. Thus has Providence rendered our malignant enemies and unscrupulous libelers subservient both to our good and to the perpetuation of an instrumentality unsurpassed in its capacity to enhance the prosperity and the well being of mankind. Those denouncing slavery and yet consuming the products of slave labor, are as hypocritical and knavish as I should be, should I denounce

theft and yet purchase, because it was cheap, an article which I knew had been stolen. They practically encourage slavery precisely as I should thus practically encourage theft. Nay, many of them are far more criminal than I should be in the supposed case, since theft is only *one* crime, while they denominate slavery "the sum of *all* villainy." Such insane bigots are admirably qualified to correct the consciences of others! Would they not better evince their sincerity, consistency and integrity by removing the huge *beam*, before searching abroad for a little *mote*? Can intelligent and high minded persons entertain any respect for such hypocrites and pharisees? Impossible!

Any hypothesis which does not clearly explain the result proposed to be attained, is undeserving serious notice, save for the purpose of exposing its absurdity. A man asks permission to demolish the edifice which comfortably shelters my family. On inquiry, I perceive that he has devised no plan for re-construction. He is capable of reducing to a shapeless mass of ruins a structure combining many conveniences, but can offer no suggestion touching subsequent proceedings. This is precisely the position of those who have wrought such wide-spread mischief—a thousand fold greater mischief to themselves and their dupes, than to us—by inculcating their crude and disjointed theories. They clamor for the abolition of slavery, but remain silent concerning subsequent arrangements. Suppose we were idiotic enough to heed their clamor and gratify their childish whims. What have they to propose relative to the disposal of the adult children thus magically transformed into nominal "freemen"? Quixotic and shallow as are their views on the negro question, they can hardly be such consummate fools as to suppose that we would permit our existence to be rendered intolerable, by the presence of such semi-barbarians. A policy so suicidal as that would be universally condemned, and our only alternative would be either the expulsion or the extermination of the hapless victims of bogus "philanthropy." In the language of the first fratricide—Cain—the poor outcasts would exclaim, "behold thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth, and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass that every one that findeth me shall slay me." And would "philanthropic" New England open her arms to receive these four millions of ruined beings who, by her despicable machinations, had been deprived of comfortable homes? Far from it. Those professing profound sympathy for the slave have none whatever for the *free* negro. The

latter may starve in their midst for aught they care. But the disastrous consequences of such prodigious folly—such wild infatuation, would not stop here, as I shall proceed to demonstrate. No well informed person will assume that white laborers, could an adequate number be procured, and at wages low enough to render the cultivation of cotton remunerative, could endure the intense heat of our climate, in the field. Hence it follows that this staple must be raised by negroes, or not at all. Experience having demonstrated the unreliability of the latter when free, an adequate supply of cotton depends upon the perpetuation of slavery. Emancipate the negroes, and, even should they be permitted to remain among us, our annual crop of more than four million bales would speedily dwindle to less than half a million—perhaps to a half or even a quarter of the latter. What would follow? Ten millions of white people now depending entirely upon that staple for the means of support, would be reduced to starvation, while hundreds of millions would be rendered destitute of the fabrics required to clothe them: blood-shed and revolution would devastate Great Britain, and probably France and New England. Thus would culminate the most atrocious and infamous crusade ever planned by men or demons, did not the South confront and drive back to their foul dens the vandalic legions that audaciously presume to profane her sacred soil by their polluting tread. Such would be the consequences were finite animosity and fiendish malice capable of defeating a stupendous design of the Almighty.

"'Tis well the sun is placed so high:
Else some reforming ass
Would rudely snatch it from the sky,
And light the world with gas."

Since the emancipation of our slaves would, by exhausting the supply of cotton, subvert the British Government, it would, were such a calamity imminent, *be compelled to take the steps requisite to avert it*. True, the inconsistency of theoretically condemning slavery while practically interposing obstacles to its overthrow, might be somewhat embarrassing to those upon whom devolved that duty: true, the act would serve to throw wide-open the sluices of criticism, and to elicit a deafening howl from the abolition kennel; but the existence of their cherished political fabric being at stake, British statesmen would succumb to the inexorable demands of necessity. This view of a subject, the magnitude of which has been appreciated by few persons outside of our Confederacy, may seem startling to those who have long been deluded by some of the most stupendous fallacies ever concocted by

human ingenuity—who have permitted sophistries floating upon the surface, to assume axiomatic characteristics, simply because, until recently, no great political tornado has agitated the elements of public opinion, bringing to view profound truths slumbering in its unexplored depths. But since these momentous truths have at length become visible, no intelligent reader will struggle to sustain cherished prejudices, the deformity of which has been thus rendered conspicuous. Men of ample mental resources will accept inflexible facts as they are, rather than vainly strive to bend them into harmony with preconceived opinions, based upon an inadequate conception of the great principles upon which they rest.

My solution of the great problem which now presents itself and demands investigation, is this : I premise that the slaves of America are a hundred-fold more comfortable, contented and happy, than they would have been had they been born and remained in Africa ; fifty-fold more so than the free negroes in the North and the West India Islands ; twenty-fold more so than the indigent laboring class in Great Britain, and ten-fold more so than that class in the Northern States. The subjoined selection from the columns of the Bee, is strikingly corroborative of this opinion :

WHITE SLAVES.

Editors of the Bee :

More despicable hypocrites than the professed “philanthropists” at the North, who pretend to sympathize so sincerely with our negro slaves, never existed. The admonition to cast out the beam from one’s own eye, before searching for a mote in a brother’s eye, is eminently applicable to these self-righteous fanatics. If they were genuine philanthropists, they would strive to abolish slavery in their own locality. All the negro slaves in the fifteen slaveholding States suffer less privation and hardship than do the slaves to destitution in the single State of Massachusetts.

The Boston *Banner of Light* reports the remarks at a Conference held there 30th of April last, the subject being “Woman’s Sphere.”

Dr. Gardner said : I lately met the case of a poor woman, sixty years of age, and who was in great want. I asked her why she didn’t get sewing to do, for such labor was much in demand, now, while the soldiers are being fitted out for the South. She said all the shops paid was *six cents*, for making a pair of drawers, or a shirt, and out of that she must find her own needles and thread ! Christianity should blush at such things, even if it does not. Women must be drawn into legislation. If the laws of the nation become what they should be, woman’s voice must be heard in the Capitol, and her judgment should be blended with her brothers, everywhere.”

"Mrs. Cooley said : It is a burning shame that woman should be imposed upon by employers as she is. During the present revival of the needlewoman's trade, military caps are made at *twelve cents apiece* ; and if the girl works as fast as she can, night and day, she can just about pay her board at this rate. I have lived in many spheres, and feel I am now contented with what I have to do. As Dr. Gardner has said, the advantage taken of weak woman by the stronger sex, is a thing Christianity should blush for ; but, after all, it is not Christianity's fault."

The *Picayune* of the 7th instant published the following :

"STARVATION PRICES.—A wealthy manufacturer at Newark, N. J., has been grinding the face of the poor most cruelly. He recently compelled a poor woman with a family of eight children, to make heavy military pants by hand, for twenty cents a pair. The woman succeeded in making four pairs in a week, and received therefor eighty cents ! Other cases of a similar character have occurred, in which advantage has been taken of the necessities of poor working men and women."

Will any one pretend that the hapless victims of such oppression and robbery are not literally "slaves for life ?" Is it possible for them ever to better their situation, while held in the grasp of such avaricious miscreants ?

If a Southern slave owner should compel his servant to work "as hard as she can, day and night," his brutality would meet the reprobation of the entire community ; and any person who should offer white women such inadequate compensation for their services as the knaves above named do, would be indignantly expelled from our midst.

These abject slaves to penury are not permitted to name the rate of remuneration they shall receive, their remorseless task master prescribing the pittance for which they shall toil incessantly to swell his ample accumulations. Yet the States in which such cruel bondage is tolerated are absurdly denominated "free."

Thank God we are at length relieved from the degradation of an alliance with people so destitute of the common instincts of humanity ! If negro slaves here were subjected to a tithe of the hardships that are endured by the white slaves at the North, we should deserve the opprobrium that is heaped upon us by the miscreants who themselves practice the heartlessness of which they falsely accuse us.

But swift retribution awaits those who have long been amassing wealth by starving their servants. Having cut off their source of prosperity by compelling the South to withdraw from their embrace, these rapacious wretches will themselves be reduced to penury, becoming the fellow slaves of those upon the rights of whom they have audaciously trampled. Their professed reverence for the "stars and stripes" is all gammon ; every discerning person knows that it is reverence for their dollars that prompts them to participate in the outcry against the South. They well know that without the South every thing they own will steadily sink in value, reducing them to hopeless bankruptcy ; hence their absurd effort to bring back by force their chief customer. This experiment will end in disgraceful and humiliating defeat, fearfully

augmenting, by the crushing expenses of war, the impoverishment that would otherwise have been inevitable. They and their successors will continue to groan under this self-inflicted burden more than a half century, the Confederate States in the meantime marching onward in a career of prosperity unequaled in the history of mankind. The latter is, and will continue to be a strictly Constitutional Republic. The fag-end of the late United States has become a military despotism, recognizing no constitutional obligations whatever. The Empire of Austria and the Empire of "the United States" now stand, practically, on the same level. I am impatient to read the comments of the prominent foreign journals upon the high-handed usurpations practiced by the caricature of humanity—the despicable tool of Greeley, Webb, and other knaves, who is desecrating an office, once the most elevated known among mankind. Some three months since, Lincoln swore to obey the Constitution of the United States; but already has he prostrated its barriers and usurped powers unsurpassed by those of the most absolute monarch in Christendom. Such atrocious perjury will meet the unqualified reprobation of foreign statesmen and editors, eliciting rebukes which will attach to his name a depth of infamy sufficient to excite the jealousy of his brother despot of Dahomey.

It is not improbable that ere long foreign Governments will withdraw their representatives from Washington, deeming it disreputable to recognize the existence of an alleged nation, so self-degraded and infamous.

From the premises already given, I reach the following conclusion, viz: That the Creator designed the institution of slavery, as the means of accomplishing four momentous results:

First, the partial civilization of a race that in its native country has, through successive centuries, remained in utter and stationary barbarism, and would there have forever resisted all efforts to ameliorate its deplorable condition:

Second, the instrumentality for affording employment and support to many millions of white people:

Third, the only source whence a large majority of the human family could procure the fabrics needed to clothe them:

Fourth, an irresistible weapon—more potent than armies, navies, and treasures combined—wherewith the Confederate States are destined to sustain the independence they have achieved, thus perpetuating the glorious institutions founded by Washington and his compatriots, and which, in the fag-end of the late United States, have already been superseded by a Military Despotism.

Slavery has already accomplished, though to a very limited extent compared to its future availability, three branches of its comprehensive mission, and those exercising a little patience will witness its triumphant consummation of the fourth. Our land forces are adequate to the de-

fense of our soil: the evidence thereof already exhibited, is prophetic of that yet to be furnished. We neither solicit, nor would we accept, if proffered, aid from external sources in the task of expelling our mercenary invaders: but, as our enemies retain possession of our share of the vessels constituting the navy of the late Union—which, however, they will have to surrender, ere we shall permit them to escape from the awkward predicament into which they have stupidly plunged—we are at present unprepared to purge our waters of the interloping craft that now infest them. Being thus situated, we need, temporarily, the co-operation of nations possessing ample naval resources: not so much, however, as such nations need our great staple, and we are therefore under no necessity of craving their aid. The precautionary measures we have adopted, preclude the exportation of any cotton so long as obstructions to unrestricted commerce shall continue to annoy *any* portion of our coast, situated either on the Atlantic or the Gulf. Should those desiring our great staple—the atmosphere without which their political existence cannot be prolonged—deem it expedient—not by any means as a favor to us, but in obedience to the promptings of self-interest—to expel from our waters all interlopers now prowling therein, we shall, of course, acquiesce in the proceeding and facilitate the attainment of the result they seek. We shall be glad to furnish all the cotton they need, to purchase their fabrics and give employment to their shipping, to the exclusion of that owned by our enemies, and their most formidable rival.

Pursuant to an agreement among our Planters, Factors and Insurance Companies, the entire crop is to remain on the plantations until all our ports shall have been entirely and permanently relieved from existing encumbrance. The cotton being thus scattered, the Lincoln conspirators would encounter perplexing obstacles to the consummation of their brilliant project—brilliant, like all their other ingenious devices—*on paper*, viz: that of seizing it, should we permit them to invade our principal commercial marts in sufficient force to do so, and were it sent to market as heretofore. Any attempt, however, to practically illustrate this admirable programme of theirs, would provoke a *finale*, eclipsing that which has immortalized the achievements of the late “Grand Army.” But admitting, notwithstanding its absurdity, for the sake of illustration, that there could be precipitated upon us hordes of Philistines numerous enough to overrun our territory—would our enemies thus possess themselves of the coveted staple? Not a bale of it, for our planters are unanimously pledged to burn any cotton, anywhere,

the seizure of which shall be seriously menaced. The expediency of this step is obvious, since they would not only "give aid and comfort to the enemy" by permitting him to steal their cotton, but would also lose its entire value themselves; while by destroying it they would enhance the value of that remaining for sale, thus throwing the loss upon their customers. Did not humane considerations—the consequent distress among the laboring classes—forbid such a stratagem, our planters could largely advance their pecuniary interest by each committing to the flames half of his crop. How? Assuming the aggregate of the maturing crop to be four million bales, *all* of which is needed, the destruction of two million bales would produce such a vacuum in the supply, as compared to the demand, that the remaining two millions would attain a value, nearly or quite equal to that which the four millions would have represented had nothing happened to interrupt the equilibrium between supply and demand. And as this equilibrium could not be subsequently restored for years, if ever, several successive crops would command prices materially higher than they would have attained had it remained undisturbed. Thus would these planters be over and over again remunerated for their nominal sacrifice, and thus would the cost of conducting the war illegally and atrociously precipitated upon us by the miscreants now infesting Washington, be twice or thrice refunded by our customers. Those familiar with the laws of trade may perhaps question the entire accuracy of this estimate, but they cannot dispute its approximate reliability.

There is but one opinion among our people concerning the expediency of withholding our cotton from Yankeedom during the existing war, be it long or short. None of Abraham's subjects will be permitted to procure a bale of it which has not been previously landed in some foreign port, and is therefore burdened with extra freight, insurance and other onerous expenses, so augmenting its cost as to render the manufacture of it unremunerative. "But," says one of those prostitute sheets that have won such celebrity by promulgating pompous and barbarous, but ridiculous and abortive projects for our speedy annihilation, "we can evade your vigilance by stratagem: vessels can clear for one of the British Provinces, and steer for one of our ports!" No they cannot, for we shall exact security from every craft suspected of such a design, obligating her to land her entire cargo at the alleged port of destination. The "starving out" experiment of the mock-government has disgracefully failed, inflicting upon its own people ten fold the damage it did upon ours, and in many ways contributing to the devel-

opment of our own resources. A proposition to ruin us by bailing out the Mississippi, would not have been more absurd and impracticable than that. But *our* plan for starving *them* out, by either paralyzing their factories, or precluding their remunerative operation, will vindicate its feasibility. They will not, of course, pretend that we are not fully justifiable in following ~~the~~ *their* own example.

Although our Republic is a mere infant—counting its existence not by centuries or years, but by weeks—it is in truth the most potent Government in Christendom; being, unlike any other nation, capable of subverting the gigantic political fabric of Great Britain, and probably that of France also, by denying them the sole means of averting starvation, and consequent revolution. The late Republic of the United States has already been subverted; but we can likewise subvert the Military Despotism now existing there, by silencing its cotton mills. And this is the concern that has essayed to subjugate the people of the Confederate States, promising also to punish and humble the two chief maritime nations of Europe, should they presume to countenance the existing “rebellion.” What ridiculous and disgusting bombast! It has, as a Canadian Journal recently remarked, “made the United States the laughing-stock of all Europe.” While sinking that *sham* government, it has correspondingly, by contrast, elevated our *genuine* Government, in the estimation of all worthy and intelligent men.

I contend that the political tornado in America, which is now convulsing a large part of Christendom, is destined to achieve for us, if seconded by our own energetic co-operation, salutary results defying finite computation, by producing a revolution in the popular sentiment abroad, which could not have been wrought by instrumentalities less stupendous and overwhelming. The mass of Europeans are profoundly ignorant of the magnitude of our natural resources and the character of our people, as well as of the practical operation and the comprehensive mission of our prominent institution, because their views on these subjects are based, almost exclusively, upon the infamous libels which have for more than a quarter of a century been assiduously thrust upon them by our unprincipled and malignant enemies. Had affairs on this side of the Atlantic remained quiescent, the vile sophisms of these calumniators would not have been detected and rebuked by those they had deluded as they are now certain to be, because the existing excitement will prompt all intelligent minds to seek a philosophical solution of experience so astounding. Providence having, by the wholesome

instrumentalities of frost, snow, rain, sun-shine, &c., rendered the soil receptive, leaves to the husbandman the sequel. The latter must do the ploughing, planting, &c., or the preliminary preparations of the former will be rendered nugatory—There will be no crop. The sensitive condition of the public mind in England, superinduced by the anxiety concerning the cotton-supply, which had for years been manifest, had adapted it to the plough: then it was rendered receptive by the ample furrows cut by our revolutionary plough: then came seed-time—the propitious moment for sowing truth in the soil which had long been overgrown by the rank weeds of fanatical sophistry. We are the husbandmen whose imperative duty it is to scatter broadcast such seeds. If we are capable of appreciating the obligation devolving upon us, we shall not permit to pass unimproved this first opportunity we have had to apply a thorough and permanent corrective to public opinion abroad. No individual yearning for the steady march of our Republic towards its brilliant destiny, will evade this solemn duty. Every one having correspondents in Europe, should send them in profusion slips from the newspapers, and all kinds of publications calculated to eradicate the prevalent errors, and to impart a conception of the prodigious resources of our country, requesting them to press them upon the consideration of their prominent men, especially their statesmen and journalists. Had this system been vigorously pursued, the British and French Governments, seeing that we possessed, in almost infinite profusion, all the elements of permanent nationality, would, ere this, have recognized our independence.

When the leading minds in Europe come to realize the astounding fact that slavery and the mighty political institutions of Great Britain must either stand or fall together, they will be no longer content to accept the narrow and bigoted Exeter-Hall definition of the former, but will consult historical and statistical evidence on the subject. Thus ascertaining that the West India Colonies have been impoverished and ruined, and the negro population thereof greatly demoralized, by the blasting experiment of emancipation, our States having in the meantime prodigiously advanced in population and in all the elements of wealth, power and refinement, they will realize that the institution of slavery was designed to vindicate the wisdom and beneficence of the Creator, and consequently that finite attempts to arrest its resistless career must prove as futile as would an effort to quench

our solar luminary. Being thus enlightened concerning an organization which, perhaps, more than any other, in a merely sublunary sense, affects the well-being of mankind, everywhere, these men will understand that duty prompts them to applaud rather than condemn those striving to defeat the designs of the short-sighted beings who would fain check its giant strides towards the consummation of its sublime mission. This mental revolution in Europe will gradually extend its influence elsewhere, until all enlightened minds will recognize its paramount claims, and the abolition faction will contract to the narrow dimensions which it occupied before its mischievous capacity was augmented by artificial appliances. That such a result will materially advance our interest, facilitating our capacity to render slavery subservient to the well-being of our race, none will dispute, save those too bigoted to merit serious notice. Besides, the satisfaction of seeing our enemies humbled and rendered harmless, will largely compensate us for all our efforts.

Emancipation in the West India Colonies was evidently designed both as a lesson to us, and as the means for correcting public opinion abroad, to be seized at this propitious epoch. This instructive lesson has served to admonish us of the momentous responsibility resting upon us as the custodians of an institution, upon the preservation and perpetuation of which hangs the welfare, nay, the very existence of countless millions of human beings. Should we for a moment hesitate to peril our lives and all we possess in defense of the sacred trust committed to our keeping, we should be recreant to the dictates of conscience—traitors to the Glorious Being who delegated to us so sublime a mission—infidels deserving the execration of God and man. We shall not falter. Confident of receiving from Him who has imparted a clear conception of the duties enjoined upon us, all the aid we need, we shall continue to hurl defiance at our infuriate foes, meeting with scorn and derision their harmless menaces—harmless to us, but not to themselves. When, prompted by more than Sepoy ferocity, they propose to “drown out” our whole population—men, women, children and servants—by “cutting our levees;” to “excite servile insurrections” and perpetrate kindred atrocities, we shall, as heretofore, calmly respond: “do so *if you can*; we are perfectly familiar with our own resources, and fully qualified to use them as occasion may suggest: you have stupidly betrayed your dread of our strength and your own weakness: those conscious of being a match for their adversaries always maintain a cool and dignified

deportment: confidence and desperation are as antagonistic as are fire and water."

This crisis will achieve another reform that will prodigiously accelerate our progress in prosperity and national development, viz: our release from that literary, financial and commercial vassalage which has hitherto kept us tributary to our enemies, and emboldened them to imagine that, as compared to themselves, we were an inferior race. This opinion is forcibly corroborated by the following literary gem, copied from the *New Orleans Mirror*:

SOUTHERN EDUCATION AND TALENT.

The following address by President Wm. H. Peck, delivered at the Semi-annual Exhibition of the Greenville Masonic Female College, Greenville, Ga., July 3d, should be universally read. It is replete with truisms, and we heartily commend it to our readers. President Peck is the son of our esteemed friend and fellow-citizen, Col. S. H. Peck, whose early devotion to the Southern Confederacy has been abundantly proved by his liberal gratuities of money, &c., to volunteer companies as well as by the fact that several of his sons are now fighting our battles in Virginia:

The age of man should not be measured by the dripping of years through sands of time's hourglass, nor reckoned by the revolutions of planets amid the boundless realms of space—for his locks are silvered by the electric touches of Event. History should no longer number her pages by years, cycles or centuries, for Time chronicles its potent and enduring achievements upon the portals of Eternity, beneath these four mottoes of man's progress: Action, Invention, Revolution and Education. It is to the value of the last that I beg your attention.

The mind of mankind grows old and gray, not with years, but with ever accumulating masses of important facts—each fact of more real value to modern man and his unborn posterity, than would be an age plucked from the mental slough of antediluvian life. He who lives fifty years of this, the 19th century, will live more in events and die older in mental existence than did the biblical and century-clad Mathuselah.

The savage of the pathless wilds knowing nothing, save from the fallacious teaching of erring Tradition, learning of earth's mighty mysteries only from a life-long experience; thinking, believing and erring as his red and rude forefathers thought, believed and erred; with a past ceasing with yesterday, a present ending with to-day, and a future bounded by to-morrow, may drag through his barbarian breathing time until the winds of a hundred winters shall have withered the branches of the oak that was an acorn when he was an

infant, and yet be young in life measured by event and utility. On the other hand a youth of an enlightened and rapidly progressing people, though the suns of twenty-summers shall not have embrowned his cheek, or darkened upon his chin the tokens of manhood, may be older than this white-haired savage, whose gaze has rested upon a thousand moons. The latter lives as his ancestors lived; sees, thinks and reasons in the thread-like path his ancestors used, and is a being of which History can write but one record: He was born, he lived, he propagated, he died, he rots!—flesh decayed, gone forever—a mere atom of the ineffable infinitesimals of God's illimitable Creation!

But what ages of event are crowded into the shorter life of the civilized and educated youth! Behold him surrounded by the numberless and ever increasing discoveries and improvements in Art, Science and Literature! Standing awe struck before the subtle majesty of enslaved steam, that giant motor, as it sways to and fro with leviathan strength the ponderous bulk of mighty and complicated machinery; or gazing in wonder upon the earth and seeing its clayey bosom with its muscles of rock and flint, bound and hampered with belts and bars of adamant, over which rush with more than race-horse speed, richly laden caravans of intelligent thousands, and priceless magazines of commercial and agricultural wealth, or gazing proudly upward upon those tiny threads of metal with which Man, the Magician, enslaves the leaping liquid flames of "Heaven's, red artillery," forcing the forked lightning to do him menial service as his telegraphic messenger; or viewing the one invincible ocean shorn of its briny terrors and tamely upholding floating palaces, magnificent arks of strength, ironbowelled ships, which play upon the foam of Neptune's rage as scatheless as the swift-winged albatross! With all these trophies of Man's progress about, above and beneath him, and having free access to the vast store-house of history, art, science and literature, grand granaries of the mind, heaped from base to dome with the time-defying acquisitions of the learned and inspired of ancient and modern men, this fortunate heir of human life lives more in a day, than did the patriarch in a year of that long existence which he divided into centuries!

Yet, to appreciate and use these inestimable advantages aright he needs a key, a talisman more potent than the *open sesame* of the Arab fable, and that talisman, which once won, can never be lost, is Education! Education! the true philosopher's stone, calcined amid the busy furnaces of the human brain, and whose possession transmutes all that surrounds it, every atom of the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdom into mental gold, the diamond polished gold of the godlike brain; gold that is to be further polished and refined beyond the stream of death which separates life from eternity. For knowledge, be it of good or evil, is as immortal as the Creator; so declared by his immutable decree, or only to be destroyed by the will of the omnipotent deity who gives it.

He that hath education is rich, though beggarly rags cling like

vermin to his Lazarus-like form, and though his food be mere pluckings from the iron fist of lean-visaged poverty! He carries his individual and inalienable treasure securely locked within the cunning vaults of his brain; and would laugh to scorn the puny force of human malignity, should it attempt to rob him of his mental wealth.

Its possession enables man to walk this lower world an inferior god! Inferior, 'tis true, immeasurably inferior; far beyond the power of tongue to express or of mind to conceive; inferior to *Him* who created man *little lower* than the angels of heaven, but so *little lower* that, when he is compared with other animals, soul-possessing man walks this earth in the shape of God, the lord of all, vice royal master below! a mortal deity!

He that is rich in houses, lands, floating wealth, or slaves to his manor born, may be rich to-day and poor to-morrow; all the poorer to-morrow from being so rich to-day. The sea, the air, the earth, his fellow men may drown, destroy, engulf or steal all his boasted riches, but the wealth of Education remains with its possessors forever, or at least while Reason rules her throne.

As we reflect upon the inestimable value of this great mental estate, this triune, and vital question arises: How, When, and Where shall it be gained? How? By diligence, attention and observation; from the lips and lore of the learned. When? In childhood, youth and manhood; yes, it is to be gained as long as life shall give space for study; man was born to learn, and though he were to live a thousand years, and to gain the wisdom of a Solon or a Solomon, every day of that great existence, he would be but little farther advanced in the solution of earth's innumerable mysteries at the day of his death, than at the hour of his birth, save in the knowledge of the greatest of facts; God creates the soul immortal.

Where shall the tree of Education be planted, where cultivated, and where shall its fruits be plucked? At home, by the fireside, among friends and kindred; in childhood and youth, where the tender love of the mother, and the proud vigilance of the father may be Argus-eyed and as sleepless as the fabled dragon. The mind of youth has been compared to wax which receives the impress of to-day that may be obliterated or defaced by that of to-morrow. The simile is beautiful but false, for the impressions stamped by precepts or examples upon the youthful mind, be they good or evil, are alike life-lasting; may we not say eternal? Should we not rather compare it to virgin gold, pure, bright and unsullied, upon which the die of the coiner may, at his option, stamp either a blessing or a curse? And as the impression of the coin, even when apparently destroyed by age, and the rough attrition of use, may be made to stand forth, clear and distinct, by chemical agency, so the faded and seemingly eradicated impressions and influences of youth really exist, and may be forced into light in after years.

Therefore should your young receive first of all *home education*, for it is a fact, potent and suggestive, that those who remember the

home of their childhood as the dearest spot on earth, are seldom found among the vicious and depraved.

It has been the suicidal fashion of the wealthier people of the South, till of late, to send their choicest and most talented sons and daughters to schools abroad, to schools in the land of their *then* secret, *now* declared enemies; to the schools and colleges of the North. It would insult every true Southern man and woman to assert that such a foolish and ruinous policy will ever again be encouraged. The errors and evils of that system are now too generally known. But in education, as in many other things, there will ever be those who yearn for the flesh-pots of Egypt; and though the lately wide spread practice of sending Southern children to Northern schools and colleges, and to Northern teachers, may have received its death blow from actual civil war, its supporters may boast that their beloved folly was so tenacious, of life, that no less a spirit of evil than ABRAHAM LINCOLNISM could kill it!

I know not how other men may have felt upon this subject, but it has ever been a source of regret, and even shame, to me, as a Southerner and a Georgian, that we, as a people, have so eagerly paid tribute to the avaracious and most treacherous North; not merely a tribute of the purse, which in itself, is but the tax that the honest man, for sake of quiet, pays to the sharper, but the tribute of the mind, the tribute of intellect, the tribute of the god-like brain!

For more than a half century the Southern mind has ignominiously truckled to the North in all matters, especially those appertaining to Education and Literature. The genius and talent of our gifted sons and daughters have been forced, by dearth of home appreciation, to kneel like supplicants before the shrine of Northern approbation. The Southern author stooped to kiss the toe of the great American Pope, Northern approval, that his talents might be acknowledged, his works pronounced passable, and he be forgiven the great sin of having been born without the pale of self-styled Northern infallibility. So far was this miserable subserviency carried, that many seemed to consider it a species of heresy to contend that the Southern born could be educated upon Southern soil; and as for contending that the Southern teacher was the equal of the Northern; oh! that was abominable nonsense! Yet we have tamely submitted to all this with a blind belief in Northern superiority, or in cowardly and culpable obedience to Northern arrogance. Was it really a fact that our sun parched and paralyzed the intellect of our native teachers? Did the inhalation of a pro-slavery atmosphere actually contract, or wither their energies? Or were Northern teachers really superior? Why did well established institutions of learning flourish for a brief time, and then sadly languish, fail, and die? It could not have been because of a lack of Northern teachers, for statistics prove that they swarmed over our land, as did the Mosaic locusts over the land of the Nile; and, in fact, were about as beneficial to us and our welfare as were those plagues to the Egyptians.

The true and only cause of the deplorable dearth of excellent schools and colleges in the South was that incubus, that cancer, that death-ulcer to every effort of progress towards independence; want of home encouragement! This rot at the core has prostrated many a noble Southern enterprise, otherwise sound, long-lived and beneficial; and I, for one, will applaud the cause that shall annihilate this curse of Southern genius, even though that cause should be the trump of civil war, whose clarion note is reverberating throughout the civilized world. The youth of the South will then be reft no more from home, at a tender and susceptible age, by egregious folly, nor exposed to the teachings of our enemies; enemies not only to us as a people, but carrying their hate even to persons, and cloaking their hypocritical lust for wealth and power beneath a threadbare guise of religious and political fanaticism. It is a subject of wonder to me that so many of those of the South, who were educated at the North, have become true and faithful citizens at home. This I assert boldly, for we have but to glance for a moment at the position of one as he passed the ordeal. Day after day, for years, he drew his learning from books tainted with abolitionism from preface to finis; hourly he heard the principles, laws and institutions of his home reviled, jeered, sneered and fleered at, made the laughing stock or scorn block of the learned or unlearned. He entered the house of God to listen to the expounding of the Gospel, but saw the pulpit filled by some raging, ranting fanatic, who breathed anathemas and not blessings; who talked of ravage and ruin and not of Christianity; who exhausted the vocabulary of vituperation in heaping epithets of scorn, hate and contempt upon the people of the South, and whose salary seemed to be paid him for no other purpose than to compare all pro-slavery soil and people to a vast Gehenna; a seething Golgotha of skulls and corruption, a Tophet blacker and more dismal than Erebus.

I do not exaggerate, but speak from personal knowledge; I passed through the ordeal of four years heat unscathed; for when I entered it I was past redemption, in the grievous sin of loving my own native South more than Yankee soil, and Yankee principles.

But enough of this; let us henceforth congratulate ourselves and each other, not that such things *have been* but they are to *be* no more. Henceforth we shall be as independent in education as in politics, and it becomes a national necessity for the Confederate States to support, foster and encourage the institutions and enterprises of the Confederacy. Let it be done in all things and at all times. The Southern mind is as capable of excellence in all that it may undertake as that of any race, clime or government on earth.

It has been a popular delusion fostered by Northern writers and orators, and more especially by Northern teachers, that it is as impossible for any excellence to emanate from a Southern clime as it was that good could come out of Nazareth in times long ago. All worth, merit and excellence must needs be born or created in climes where stone and frost become crops. But history stamps this fallacy

as a deliberate lie, coined by the North to be the badge of Southern inferiority. I do not undervalue Northern intellect; the fact that *we* have so long bowed to it, is its greatest praise; but superiors may bend for a time to inferiors, when deceived; and in deception, in treachery, in hypocrisy, we yield the palm to Freesoilism.

But let us prove the true superiority of the Southern mind by historical facts.

No age of man, from creation down, has produced a poet equal to Homer of Greece, to Virgil or to Horace of Rome; and they were men of the South. What era of man's history can show orators whose fame can touch the hem of the garments of Demosthenes, Pericles, Alcibiades of Greece; of Cicero or Hortentius of Rome? and they were Southerners. Who was the father of History? Heroditus. Who of letters? The Phœneecian. Who of Mathematics? The Arab. Who of Astronomy? The Chaldean. Who of Architecture? The Egyptian. And all were Southerners. Who was greater in his day, or who more famous now for his physical knowledge than Aristotle? What school, or rather epoch, of philosophers more renowned than Solon, Socrates, Seneca, or Plato? Who has equalled the discoveries in mechanical philosophy of Archimedes? And they were Southerners. What works of art excel those of Phidias or Angelo? What navigators more famous than Columbus or De Gama? And were they not Southerners? If we pass to the giants of the battle field, who is equal in renown, in immense achievements, to Julius Cæsar, to Mahomet, to Napoleon Bonaparte, to Washington? And all were Southerners. These are by-gone days, but the laws of nature are as eternal as the race of man, and were we to call the mighty names of this century, I care not in what field of excellence, the South, our South, were merit acknowledged as it is due, with her list of mental giants would equal at least that of our present enemies. As for superiority in war, let this contest tell the tale. I have no fears that the North will be able to say, when it closes, "Behold, a greater General than our renegade chief, Scott;" and Scott is a Southerner! No shame to us, no praise to the North, but eternal infamy to him whom they call President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln *was* a Southerner! And they have just made another renegade a Brigadier-General, and hold him next to Scott in value; J. C. Fremont; and *he* is a Southerner.

Seven times has the world been conquered by the uprising of nations. Twice they were nations of the North; five times the conquerors were nations of the South.

Enough has been said to establish, not merely the equality of the Southern mind with that of any other, but to convince the most skeptical of its superiority. This being the fact, it is the duty of the South to trample under foot those mental shackles which have so long disgraced her. And the first and most effective means that should and can be used is to foster, encourage and patronize your institutions of learning, and in fact all other branches in which, hitherto you have paid exorbitant tribute to the North.

Another custom, nearly as suicidal as that already mentioned, is that of entrusting the educable youth of the South, when taught upon our soil, to the tuition of half educated and incompetent teachers. Again, some persons are so ignorant as to look down upon the profession of the teacher, whereas the very name itself implies mental superiority, and mental superiority is the aristocracy of the soul, which laughs at the contemptible vanity that calls its own supercilious clay of nobler dust than that of other men. The fact is that the profession at the South has been insulted and contaminated by the intrusion of pedagogic quacks, who have made the rostrum the arena of their temporary rise from the ditch of ignorant pretension, and the peddling of brass clocks and tin pans.

The existing war will sweep this trash from the floors of our schools, colleges and academies, and give place at least in literature, for the native born and Southern hearted teacher.

To you then, I, as one of those teachers, and ranking myself but as one willing and competent to do justice to your children, appeal not only for the support of that college over which I have the honor to preside, called to its chief chair by its trustees, but also in behalf of all other similar institutions.

Merriwether County is amply able to sustain most liberally both a Male and Female College, in addition to numerous minor and primary schools, and while the noble spirit of independence in Government is so aroused, let me appeal to your county pride to aid in building up such colleges as I have mentioned. The teacher should not be forced to have recourse to a systematic electioneering, here and there, made "to bend the pregnant hinges of the knee that thrift may follow fawning," but let unanimous encouragement nerve his energies, stimulate his pride and ambition; in brief, give him the material to work upon; for such good and liberal encouragement, though not denied to be of pecuniary benefit to the teacher, will be the means of restoring the value of the educational fees in fourfold proportion, in mental wealth, to your children.

The foregoing able contribution to current literature, will serve as an invaluable auxiliary to this humble effort of mine. As a corrective of public sentiment elsewhere, and of the suicidal practices that have so generally prevailed at home, its salutary capacity is incalculable.

In view of the results to be attained by our revolutionary struggle, it becomes evident that any expenditure of blood and treasure it may demand, will return us many times its equivalent, impoverishing and disparaging the North no less than it enriches and dignifies the South.

Secession was the death-warrant of all the States situated north of Maryland or Delaware. This the inhabitants thereof now realize: hence their desperation—their futile attempts to recover by force the source of prosperity—the inestimable jewel—which had been lost

through their own moral infidelity and perfidity—their atrocious nullification of the Constitution they had *voluntarily* pledged themselves to obey. How righteous the retribution! We mock at their insane raving—their ridiculous bombast and paltry menaces, excite our pity, but are as incapable of intimidating us as is the wailing of an infant. We know that we can and shall *compel* them to yield that which they were too short-sighted to grant voluntarily. They might have sustained their dignity by recognizing our nationality at our *solicitation*: having refused to do this, they will have to submit to the humiliation and infamy of recognizing it at our *dictation*: They, too, have learned a lesson, a fearfully significant one: but while ours came at a propitious moment, theirs came too late. Ages hence will their languishing cities, silenced work-shops and idle factories eloquently admonish mankind of the blighting tendency of fanaticism—of the suicidal consequences of permitting the prostitute, though once sacred, desk to compete with the leprous stump in the use of vile and libelous political slang. While commiserating the pauperism and distress pervading that doomed section, we shall rejoice and thank God that the tie which once bound us to it has been forever severed, and our national dignity thus vindicated—that we are free from an alliance so degrading and humiliating.

To me it is self-evident that the events I have enumerated, and a multitude of others, mention of which I must omit for want of time, and to avoid greater prolixity, constitute a symmetrical chain, constructed by the Great Ruler for the purpose of qualifying our Republic to confront and subdue the combined obstacles now obstructing the luminous paths to its sublime destiny. Since a tiny sparrow cannot fall unnoticed by Him, it were gross presumption—unpardonable infidelity—to assume that circumstances so significant, and apparently so harmonious in their tendency, are attributable to *mere chance*. As He was, millions of centuries since, no less cognizant of the events now transpiring than He is at this moment, nothing could be more reasonable than the inference that, from the inception of the abolition fallacies down to the present period, He has been so adapting successive circumstances as to render them all subservient to the existing political exigency. If, as I believe, this conviction be generally indulged by the people of our Confederacy, it is nowise surprising that they manifest profound faith in their ultimate triumph, and exhibit heroic courage in every conflict with the enemy. An army confident of being led by the resistless Lord of Hosts, becomes equivalent to so many Samsons.

Hordes of mercenaries marching under the dirty banner of fanaticism, dwindle in its estimation to infantile dimensions, and fall at the terrific sweep of its weapons, as the grass yields to the keen edge of the sythe. Why, the electric glance flashing from the eye of a man thus inspired with ten-fold human energy, is sufficient to smite with panic and put to flight regiments of hired adversaries! To the startled vision of the cowering Philistines at MANASSAS, the "Black Horse Cavalry," rushing with sublime impetuosity to the giant conflict, each man thereof as regardless of personal peril as if he were a statue, assumed the magnitude of a vast army, outnumbering the leaves of the forest. Those flattering themselves that they can subdue *such* men—or that they could, were their resources five-fold augmented—will ere long deplore their infatuation. History presents nothing corroborative of such an assumption, and their own experience, thus far, strikingly demonstrates its profound absurdity.

The Providential aspect of current events is further evinced by the uniformly disastrous result of every scheme concocted by the Washington conspirators. They have not taken so much as one step, designed to prejudice us, which has not materially advanced our cause, correspondingly injuring their own. The first fruit of their war-programme was the transfer from their family to ours of four potent states, nearly doubling our population and our defensive resources. Were not the Almighty impelling them onward toward the abyss into which they are destined soon to plunge, they would not *invariably* make a false move. Can any one name a single act of theirs, prompted by hostility to us, which has not inured to our good, and elicited disparaging criticisms from foreign statesmen and journalists? Each of these failures has rendered us more formidable than we previously were, by augmenting our confidence in our own resources and in the active co-operation of our Almighty ally.

The affected attempt to *reinforce* Fort Sumter, after assuring our Commissioners that it would be *evacuated*, was designed—as we well knew at the time, and as has been demonstrated by evidence recently published by Gov. Pickens—to manufacture political capital, and to afford public officers, both national and State, facilities for depredating upon the public moneys. Hundreds of such officers are, by indirect means, accumulating wealth with amazing rapidity. It is said that Secretary Cameron will make his sutler stratagem yield him at least a score of millions, should the war continue twelve months. No wonder these

disinterested "patriots" denounce as "traitors," those among them who counsel peace.

The State elections subsequent to Lincoln's inauguration had evinced an appalling re-action in public sentiment, rendering it evident that the Democratic party would soon gain the ascendancy, unless it could, by stratagem, be lured into measures suicidal to itself, and correspondingly advantageous to its sectional antagonist. The attempt to ensnare an adversary always recoils upon its author, throwing him back prodigiously, unless it prove successful. Had the Democrats detected the vile designs of their political foes, and indignantly denounced them, they would thus have accelerated the decline of sectionalism which had so alarmed the mock Administration, augmenting in the same ratio, their own strength. But, lacking the average share of sagacity, they blindly nibbled the bait, and the Lincoln trap sprung upon them, as I shall show. The conspirators knew, of course, that we would not so far disregard the dictates of self-respect—so utterly extinguish all claims upon other governments for that recognition of national independence which we deemed a simple act of justice, and a mere conformity to long established usage, as to permit Fort Sumter to be reinforced, despite their pledge to evacuate it. They perfectly understood that such self-stultification would be equivalent to the relinquishment of the nationality we claimed. Nor did they wish to have us manifest such an inadequate conception of our rights and our duties, since we should thus have defeated their cunningly devised scheme to press into their own ranks their political adversaries at home. *They wanted us to reduce Fort Sumter:* and lest we should, being taken by surprise, omit timely arrangements for doing so, they took the precaution to notify Gov. Pickens of the feint they contemplated. How a trick so transparent as this, could have deluded *any* man of average intelligence, I cannot understand. To pretend that *we* commenced the war, by doing that which our enemies purposely rendered it impossible to avoid, is to intimate that the listener is incapable of discriminating between white and black—that he is a consummate ass. We evinced our indignation at the atrocious perfidy of which we had been the victims, and vindicated our dignity, by reducing the Fort and hoisting our own flag. This served to develop the prominent feature of the ingenious programme. Hired ruffians accordingly paraded the streets of the Northern cities, clamoring for vengeance and commanding Democratic editors—supposed free-men—to display the "glorious national emblem"—those cherished

“stars and stripes” which, by “rebel” hands had been subjected to “disgrace and ignominy.” Here and there a dauntless champion of freedom confronted and defied these audacious would-be usurpers of his individual rights, but the mass of the assailed pusillanimously surrendered to mob despotism, and became the obsequious vassals of a party which they had long been wont to denounce and execrate, as an organization designing the subversion of the Constitution and of the liberties of the people. Who could have believed that a scene so humiliating and melancholy—such an abject relinquishment of individual sovereignty and self-respect—would ever be witnessed on American soil! The pretense that such recreancy to the principles these men had steadily professed to cherish and venerate, was demanded by the alleged indignity offered at Fort Sumter to the national flag, was a fraud upon human credulity—an insult to common sense. It was resorted to as an excuse for their dastardly obedience to the behests of a gang of infuriate demons—representatives from the brothels and the penitentiaries. Had these editors been prompted by a determination to vindicate the dignity of the “Stars and stripes,” they would not have awaited the capture of *that* Fort, but would have evinced their indignation and resentment on several previous occasions, when *other* Forts on our coast were seized, and the “stars and stripes” in like manner hauled down. This conclusion cannot be evaded, being perfectly self-evident. The capture of Fort Sumter was incalculably conducive to our permanent good, since it served to expose the hypocrisy and perfidy of those who had long deluded us by professions of “conservatism,” and of hostility to the crusade against our rights openly avowed by the sectional party. Previous to this disclosure, there was a large party—perhaps a majority—in the Cotton States, that would have acquiesced in a re-construction of the late Union, all the guarantees demanded by the South being yielded, and Lincoln being deposed: but, on perceiving that the entire people of the North utterly ignored the great principles promulgated in the Declaration of Independence and reflected in the Constitution, the Union men of these States became even more clamorous for entire and unqualified independence than the original Secessionists, and discovered that experience was triumphantly vindicating the sagacity of JOHN C. CALHOUN, and other prominent South Carolina statesmen, in long since detecting the real sentiments and the selfish designs of their Northern fellow-citizens. No prophecy in scripture has been more literally fulfilled than have the predictions uttered by that profound politi-

cal seer during the first third of the present century. Being confronted by evidence so irresistible, all Union men who were not unmitigated bigots, unhesitatingly abandoned their previous prejudices against that intrepid state, and enthusiastically awarded its well-earned meed—that of acting as pioneer in the second struggle for American Independence. Until the annals of our country shall be obliterated, the name of SOUTH CAROLINA will shine with undimmed brilliancy.

Perceiving that *all* the prominent men of the North, with the entire approbation of the masses—the late bogus “conservatives,” no less than the ultra sectionalists—were uncompromising Consolidationists, recognizing no State Rights whatever, but insisting upon unqualified submission to the tyrannical edicts of a corrupt and despotic majority, our ex-Unionists recoiled in dismay from the contemplation of a measure so suicidal as that of re-alliance with that section. Surely no man more devoutly cherished the hope that the late Union would be perpetuated, than I did: but I would now unhesitatingly surrender my mortal existence, rather than countenance any measure designed to renew the late political co-partnership, under any conditions that human ingenuity could devise: and I question whether there can be found in all the Cotton States, a thousand permanent citizens, whose sentiments on this subject do not fully concur with mine.

In a letter dated 5th Feb. last, *after* several Forts had been seized by us, and an “indignity” to the “stars and stripes” thus offered, EDWARD EVERETT of Massachusetts, a man unsurpassed in his *professions* of national conservative principles, inculcated the following noble sentiments:

“To expect to hold fifteen States in the Union by force, is preposterous. The idea of a civil war, accompanied, as it would be, by a servile insurrection, is too monstrous to be entertained for a moment. If our sister States must leave us, in the name of heaven, let them go in peace.”

Less than five months afterwards, this same man gave the lie to that voluntary declaration of his. In a Fourth of July harangue, he proclaimed not that “to expect to hold fifteen States in the Union by force is preposterous,” but that it was the *duty* of the mad zealots who were listening to and vehemently applauding his atrocious counsels, to *invade these identical States for the express purpose of holding them “in the Union by force.”* And why? simply because *only one more* Fort had been seized, and the degraded emblem of despotism dragged from its flag-staff, under the promptings of that resentment becoming men

who had been duped and defrauded by the human vermin infesting Washington. When so prominent a leader thus prostituted himself, unrebuked, who could doubt that all Yankeedom was rotten to the core—a putrid and fetid mass of moral deformity?

Lincoln and his Cabinet seem to be as innocent of statesmanship as the same number of Indian squaws. If anything they have done evinces the least conception of that quality, it has not yet transpired or it has eluded my notice. His late message to his Congressional minions is entirely beneath contempt—purile, ambiguous and mendacious. (What a contrast between that and the dignified, lucid and logical state-papers emanating from President Davis!) He unblushingly confesses that he has committed official perjury, and absurdly asks Congress to *legalize* the atrocity, apparently unaware of their inability to do anything of the kind, otherwise than by impeachment and subsequent acquittal.

Had not those in the lower House been as ignorant as their master, they would not have excited the ridicule of all sensible persons, by enacting this white-washing farce, in obedience to his instructions. With unparalleled effrontery, he assumes that the existence of the Union *preceded* that of the Sovereign States which originally constituted it. Could he have been so densely ignorant of the history of his own country? If he was, he should forthwith relinquish the position he now disgraces, for the purpose of entering one of the primary schools. Under the Constitution which Lincoln had sworn to obey, he had no more authority than I had, to inaugurate the existing war. Ex-Attorney General Black, of Mr. Buchanan's Cabinet, proved by irrefutable argument that the Executive had no power whatever—either expressed or implied—to employ force against the seceded States. The war-programme being consequently illegal—a palpable contravention of the Constitution—Lincoln is virtually the murderer of each man slain, on either side, in the prosecution of it. This startling fact is now recognized by few, comparatively, but the time is not remote when it will loom up in all its prodigious magnitude, vindicating its mighty significance and challenging the execration of the civilized world. The thousands of his own subjects who have been unnecessarily and cruelly bereaved by his fratricidal hand, will confront the barbarian and clamor for that ample retribution which his atrocities have earned. The blood of every victim vehemently “crieth from the ground” for justice, and the appeal will, in due time, meet a terrible response. If Lincoln could, and should, transmute into a ton of gold every hair of his head,

tendering me the prodigious aggregate for the privilege of exchanging situations with me, I would recoil from the proffered bribe, as I would from the malignant fangs of a viper. His doom is inevitable: and although it will come too late to be of service to *him*, it will forever blaze upon the historic page—a beacon-light admonishing mankind of the perils that await the official felon.

The following powerful article from the *New York News* is illustrative of our national resources. As, however, it is based upon statistics collected eleven years since, a liberal addition should be made, in view of our subsequent progress in the development of those resources. The man who can compress within so small a space such a profusion of profound truths, fortified by arguments so invincible, wields a weapon—minute but mighty—which is more than a match for any “grand army” that the traitor Lieut. General can organize. Should the insane minions of despotism essay to paralyze that formidable weapon, they will experience a rebound, more appalling than any “masked battery:”

STRENGTH OF THE SOUTH.

During the last few days we have collected many isolated facts relating to the movements of Southern troops, and also some general statistics indicating the aggregate strength of the Confederate army, and present them to the public to-day. These facts, and the inferences to be drawn from them, if candidly considered, cannot fail to impress the North with the solemn truth that in the inauguration of the present war it has awakened to hostility a monster power of boundless resources and invincible will.

Two hundred and fifty thousand men this hour bear arms for Southern independence. One hundred and fifty thousand more have been called to arms by the Confederate Congress, and those who know the spirit and the temper of the South in the present crisis know that the call is not sent forth in vain. Home guard throng in every county, city, town. Bayonets gleam on every public road. Companies rally in regiments—regiments into armies. Wide-mouthed cannon guard every shore. Strong willed men line every border. A whole people sleep at night upon the tented field, and rise in the morning to the beat of hostile drums. These men, as well as men of the North, are the sons of those who left their bloody tracks upon the Northern snows, and humbled Britain's pride and power in the war of the Revolution. They are descended from those strong-willed barons who wrung guarantees for freedom from old King John at Runnemedes. Right or wrong, they see only Liberty as the purpose of the struggle in which they have engaged, and for that they have consecrated themselves to the cause as martyrs. Hence the potent, patent truth—a great Empire, from the

Potomac river to the Gulf, is one vast military camp wherein strong men throng in arms.

But the South is not strong alone in its numbers and its invincible resolution. She has native resources of soil, abundant and inexhaustible. The census of 1850—the latest complete public authority upon the subject—informs us that the South, embracing less than one-third of the population of the United States, raised that year wheat enough for its entire population; that it grew more than forty per centum of the entire corn crop of the Union; and that the value of its slaughtered animals was nearly thirty-nine per centum of the whole value returned for the United States. If we add to these the superabundant rice crop of the Southern States, we have an aggregate from which we deduce, by the simplest mathematical calculation, the important fact, that the South, in proportion to its population, produces annually in bread-stuffs a value more than double that of the North. She is, therefore, twice as capable of self support in a protracted war. Especially is such the fact in the present year, when the usual export crops in a great measure give way to staples of more immediate necessity. The facts told by these plain, unpretending agricultural figures are a greater defense against war ship blockades than all the booming cannon or hissing shells that ever did execution in the war of man against man.

We but state facts—facts which the humblest man ought to know—facts which cannot be ignored—facts which are eloquent with warning. No prison house, no indictment can hide or suppress them. No tyranny can avert them. No violence can overcome or subdue them. They are as inevitable as time. These things are. The sooner the popular mind grasp them, realizes them, deals rationally with them, the sooner the dawn of the morning upon us. This conflict is not a short, and will not be a quick one, if arms be the means and subjugation the end. If Great Britain could not subdue three millions of Americans in seven years, the North cannot subdue eight millions in seventy times seven years. The attempt is but trifling with impossibilities. Is it treason to say it, since we know it? Shall the people defy and scorn the issues they must meet?

The *News* is conducted by that dauntless champion of moral independence who won imperishable renown by vindicating his individual rights, when assailed by a howling mob of hired miscreants. Such articles as the foregoing are not, as alleged by the miserable tools of Lincoln, designed to subserve our interest, but are evidently intended to admonish the people of the North of the hopelessness of their self-destructive crusade against the South. Which of the two should be deemed the sagacious and sincere friend of the North—he who madly urges it onward to destruction, or he who indefatigably strives to avert its utter ruin, by calmly and lucidly demonstrating the suicidal tendency of the infuriate policy which guides it?

After I had written the foregoing, and was about to add the concluding paragraphs, I fortunately met, in one of the most dignified and able journals published on this continent—*The New Orleans Bee*—the following corroboration of some of the views I have presented. Had I failed to avail myself of additional testimony so lucid and overwhelming, I should have been self-convicted of having withheld from the sagacious jury I had empaneled—the reading public—“material evidence:”

DESPERATION.

If the people of the South needed any other encouragement to press forward in the glorious task of achieving their independence, than is derived from the almost unbroken series of triumph which have attended the struggle, it might be found in the desperation which marks the conduct of the enemy. Their policy evidently springs from fear. They have long since passed beyond the calmness and moderation which distinguish men confident of success and sure of popular support, and they are now compelled to rely upon a system of tyranny and terror in the vain hope of overawing and silencing an opposition which they dare not encounter with the weapons of reason and of truth.

The record of the Abolition Government of the United States since the battles of Manassas and Springfield is hardly superior to that of the Emperor of China or the King of Dahomey. Mr. LINCOLN and his ferocious satellites have been guilty of acts at which civilization grows pale and humanity shudders. It might have been hoped that in a land boasting itself the asylum of civil and religious liberty; and among a people claiming to be the freest, the most enlightened and the most tolerant of any upon earth, war itself would be measurably divested of its hideous features. But the miserable braggarts of the North have been tested by this touch-stone, and now exhibit themselves in naked barbarism and brutality. It has been reserved for the Yankees to conduct hostilities in a spirit of venomous and unrelenting hatred such as the nineteenth century had never previously witnessed. What are we to think? What opinion will the intelligent Governments of Europe form of the Lincoln Administration when their recent atrocities are made known? Just glance at a few of them. Southern ladies of birth, education and respectability temporarily sojourning at the North, are arrested as felons and ruthlessly imprisoned for no other crime than that of sympathizing with the country of their husbands, fathers, or children. Southern gentlemen, wherever found, are treated as enemies and consigned to dungeons. The highest municipal authorities of a city not belonging to the Southern Confederacy are torn at midnight from their homes by bands of lawless soldiers, immured within the walls of a fort, treated with shameful rigor, and subjected to many severe privations. Within the structures set apart as Bastiles groan a host of unfortunate beings whom the decrees of an inexorable tyrant have condemned to

cruel isolation and imprisonment. The law is powerless to save them. The "*sic volo sic jubeo*" of a despot has overleaped the barriers of justice, stricken down and annihilated the once potent writ which stood between arbitrary power and helpless innocence, and now wields an authority as absolute and irresponsible as that of the autocrat of all the Russians.

Nor does this fearful list complete the catalogue. Our privateers who have unhappily fallen into the hands of these Vandals have been treated like felons of the deepest dye. In defiance of the unchangeable policy and practice of the very Government over which LINCOLN presides, they have been regarded as pirates, have been handcuffed, dragged through the streets of New York, victims of the ribaldry and savage glee of the rabble, and then thrust into prison, to await their trial and condemnation. Nothing save the dread of retaliation has deterred the Lincolnites from slaughtering them in cold blood, without even the formality of a trial. Finally, to cap the climax and fill the measure of outrage and iniquity, the bloody-minded FREMONT proclaims the entire State of Missouri under martial law, declares that all persons found with arms in their hands shall be court-martialed and shot, and that their property shall be confiscated and their slaves set free. By this sweeping statute he expects to terrify the freemen of Missouri into passive submission to the tyranny of abolitionism.

All this, horrible and disgusting as it is, proves that the foe is hourly losing confidence. Nothing but absolute desperation could prompt such wicked counsels. If the rulers of the North were not afraid of the overwhelming influence of an adverse public opinion, they would tolerate an opposition which they knew to be innocuous. They would not suppress newspapers, and tar and feather editors for advocating peace. They would not discover formidable antagonists in the persons of Southern-born ladies; nor would they conceive it essential to their safety to seize, rifle and place in confinement every Southern man returning from Europe. A policy like this is the fruit of insensate rage and abject terror. The Confederates have hitherto carefully abstained from imitating it. They have perhaps erred on the side of lenity and indulgence, and have not considered the stringent urgency of making reprisals. We are gratified, however, to observe that our own Government has at length been aroused to the assertion at once of its dignity and its power, and that its latest legislation is of a character to make the miscreants of the North feel that retribution will overtake them precisely in the form most odious to their grasping and rapacious souls. The confiscation bill which has passed Congress will teach them that they cannot forever despoil and oppress us with impunity.

Had the trembling beings in Washington admitted, in plain terms, their consciousness of the appalling perils that everywhere menaced them, they could not have more conclusively demonstrated the terror which bewilders their mental faculties (if they have any) than they did by resorting to such atrocities as those above cited. "Whom the Gods would destroy, they first make mad."

Gladly do I relinquish an arduous effort, undertaken in the hope that it might serve to provoke from those more competent, a further elucidation of the momentous issues now claiming public and individual scrutiny. Its prolixity—far surpassing that of any previous single contribution to the press, of mine—will, I trust, be excused, in view of the multifarious points involved in a subject so comprehensive. Notwithstanding this prolixity, I have made but a limited exploration of the infinite region expanding before my bewildered vision. Should I attempt to exhaust so profound a theme, volumes would accumulate beneath my laborious pen. I however have, I humbly hope, said enough to facilitate its mental elaboration by the intelligent reader.

NEW ORLEANS, *September*, 1861.

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